

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01310 260932Z

12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 PPT-02 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 SAM-01 L-03

DRC-01 /063 W

----- 038359

R 260838Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2634

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1310

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: CVIS, KS

SUBJ: ROKG CANCELLATION OF NEWSWEEK CORRESPONDENT'S VISA

REF: SEOUL 1255

1. ON FEB 25 MINISTER OF INFORMATION YUN CHU YONG INFORMALLY TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT MESSAGE HAD BEEN SENT THAT DAY TO ROK EMBASSY/TOKYO CONFIRMING ROKG DECISION TO CANCEL MULTIPLE-ENTRY VISA OF NEWSWEEK CORRESPONDENT BERNARD KRISHER. IN EXPLAINING ROKG ACTION YUN SAID KRISHER WOULD BE ABLE TO APPLY FOR SINGLE-ENTRY VISA TO VISIT ROK WHEN HE WISHED AND INDICATED SUCH VISA WOULD BE GRANTED.

2. MOFA AMERICAN BUREAU DIRECTOR LEE SANG OCK GAVE POL COUNS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT VERSION OF ROKG ACTION AGAINST KRISHER. ACCORDING TO LEE, BOTH ROK EMBASSY/TOKYO AND AMBASSADOR HAHM IN WASHINGTON URGED RECONSIDERATION DECISION TO CANCEL KRISHER'S VISA. HOWEVER, MORNING OF FEB 25 ORIGINAL DECISION WAS CONFIRMED AND MESSAGE SENT ROK EMBASSY/TOKYO TELLING IT TO PROCEED TO CANCEL KRISHER'S MULTIPLE-ENTRY VISA. ACCORDING TO LEE, MESSAGE ALSO INSTRUCTED ROK EMBASSY/TOKYO NOT TO ISSUE KRISHER SINGLE-ENTRY VISA ON ITS OWN AUTHORITY.

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RATHER ANY APPLICATION BY HIM IS TO BE REFERRED TO SEOUL FOR DECISION.

3. LEE SAID THAT MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND INFORMATION (MCUI) DOES NOT DISPUTE MOFA VIEW THAT ACTION AGAINST KRISHER WILL CAUSE "UNHAPPY" REPERCUSSIONS WITH U.S. MEDIA. HOWEVER, LEE SAID MCUI VIEW IS THAT SUCH ACTION NECESSARY IN VIEW OF HARD LINE IT HAD SUCCESSFULLY TAKEN AGAINST JAPANESE CORRESPONDENTS HERE. LEE EXPLAINED MCUI BELIEVES THAT IF AMERICAN NEWSMEN, KRISHER IN PARTICULAR, ALLOWED TO ESCAPE WITH NO PUNISHMENT FOR STRONGLY CRITICAL STORY, JAPANESE NEWSMEN WOULD DEMAND EQUAL TREATMENT.

4. LEE SAID AS OF TODAY(FEB 26) MOFA HAS NOT RECEIVED CONFIRMATION THAT ROK EMBASSY/TOKYO HAS CALLED KRISHER IN.
HABIB

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 26 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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